## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-11** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 XMB-07 AID-20

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R 121741Z JUL 74 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3784 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS USMISSION EC BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR EXIM BANK REP

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRN, GW

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FRG AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY POLICY

1. DURING A JULY 10TH PRESS CONFERENCE, THE FRG PRESS SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE FEDERAL CABINET HAD DECIDED TO MAKE AVAILABLE GOVERNMENT LOAN GUARANTEES COVERING UP TO

M L.5 BILLION FOR THE GERMAN PORTION OF THE AIRBUS PROJECT. THE FRG ALSO UNDERTOOK TO GUARANTEE LOANS OF UP TO DM 257 MILLION FOR THE VFW 614 PROJECT LEAVING DM 63 MILLION TO BE COVERED BY GUARANTEES FROM THE

LAND GOVERNMENTS OF BREMEN AND LOWER SAXONY. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REFERRED TO A LIMITA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION ON AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY CAPACITY ADDING THAT AN FRG

COORDINATOR FOR THE AIRCRAFT AND SPACE INDUSTRY WOULD BE APPOINTED ON OCTOBER 1, 1974.

## 2. ECON MIN OFFICIAL SCHOMERUS CONFIRMED THAT THE

GOVERNMENT'S ACTION ON CREDIT GUARANTEES FOR AIRBUS SERIES PRODUCTION WAS DESIGNED TO SET A CEILING ON THE LEVEL OF BANK LOANS THE FRG WOULD GUARANTEE. THUS FAR, ACCORDING TO SCHOMERUS. THE FRG HAD GUARANTEED LOANS TOTALLING DM 500 MILLION AND NOW WISHED TO ESTABLISH A FIRM UPPER LIMIT. SERIES PRODUCTION OF THE VFW 614 ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY FINANCED WITHOUT GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES. SCHOMERUS ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT HAD BEEN MISINTERPRETED IN PRESS CIRCLES. CONTRARY TO A STORY CARRIED BY A LOCAL WIRE SERVICE, THE CABINET'S REFERENCE TO CAPACITY LIMITATION DID NOT RELATE SPECIFICALLY TO THE AIRBUS AND 614 PROJECTS BUT WAS MEANT TO SERVE AS A GENERAL WARNING TO THE AIRCRAFT AND SPACE INDUSTRY ON THE FRG'S DISINCLINATION TO MAKE PUBLIC MONEY AVAILABLE FOR NEW PROJECTS (WHETHER CIVIL OR MILITARY). THE FRG HOPED, THEREBY, TO DISCOURAGE THE INDUSTRY FROM INCLUDING IN ITS LONGER RANGE PLANNING OVERLY OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS OF GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

## 3. RE AN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY COORDINATOR, SCHOMERUS POINTED OUT THAT

THE NUMBER OF MINISTRIES (ECON, DE-

FENSE, TRANSPORT, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY) SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES IN THE AVIATION AND SPACE FIELDS HAD CREATED OBSTACLES TO EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT COORDINATION ON INDUSTRY PLANNING. THE AGENCIES INVOLVED HAD BEEN ASKED TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS BY OCTOBER 1, ON HOW BEST TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION. THE APPOINTMENT OF A COORDINATOR WAS JUST ONE OF THE APPROACHES INDER CONSIDERATION BUT SCHOMERUS THOUGHT THERE WAS A GOOD CHANCE IT WOULD BE THE SOLUTION CHOSEN.

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## Message Attributes

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